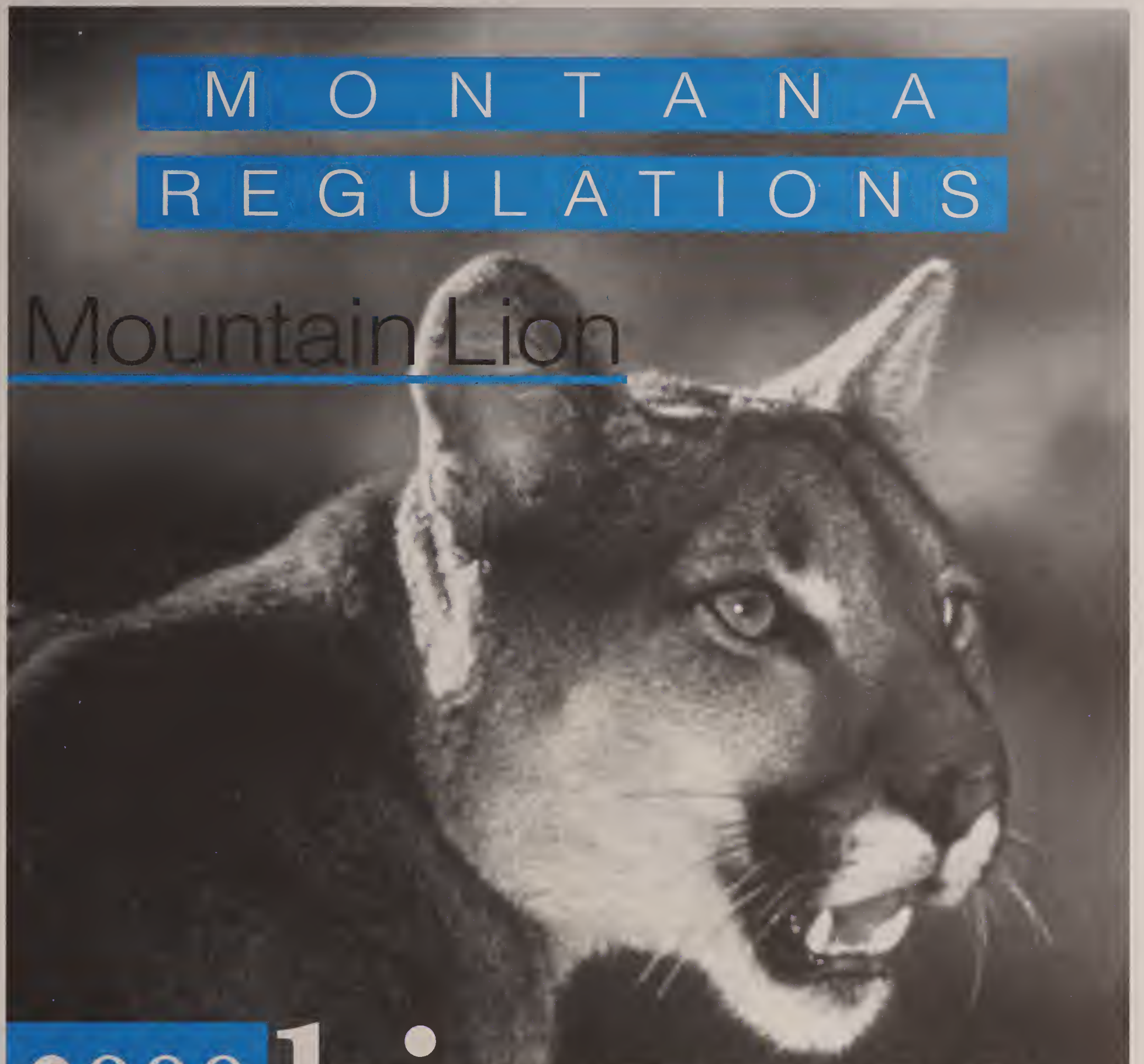
MONTANA REGULATIONS

Mountain Lion



2000 big game hunting

12 hour reporting requirement...see page 2

New permit alternative in region 1...see page 2

Turn In Poachers ... **1-800-TIP-MONT** *or* **1-800-847-6668**

Licensing & Regulations

Licenses

- A hunter may purchase only one mountain lion license per year.
- Mountain lion licenses are available only at Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) Headquarters.
- A hunter may legally take one adult mountain lion per season.
- Hunter orange is required for mountain lion hunters.
- Applications must be postmarked by the US Postal Service no later than August 31.

General Regulations

- As a big game animal, mountain lions may only be taken by hunting (rifle, pistol or archery).
- When the total quota is reached in a hunting district or hunting district group, the mountain lion season for that area will close upon 24-hours notice to the harvest of mountain lions, but no later than April 14.
- When the subquota is reached in a hunting district or hunting district group, the mountain lion subquota for that area will close upon 24-hours notice to the harvest of mountain lions, but no later than April 14.
- The Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission has authorized the department to initiate closure prior to reaching the quota or subquota when conditions or circumstances indicate the quota may be reached within the 24-hour closure notice period.
- The mountain lion license and tag must be attached to the animal immediately upon kill.
- Evidence of sex must remain naturally intact on the hide.
- Evidence of sex must be verified by department personnel before a trophy license is issued. It will also be mandatory that skulls be turned in for tagging at the time a trophy license is issued. A tooth will be taken at this time for aging purposes.
- A hunter harvesting a mountain lion must, if required by FWP, physically return to the kill site for inspection.
- All Wildlife Management Areas are closed to lion hunting in the winter season except Fleecer and Mt. Haggin WMAs will be open December 1 - 15, 2000.
- All National Wildlife Refuges are closed to lion hunting.
- Two-way communications may not be used to: 1) hunt big game animals as defined in MCA 87-2-101(8).("Hunt" means to "pursue, shoot, wound, kill, chase, lure, possess or capture.") OR 2) avoid game checking stations, FWP enforcement personnel, or to facilitate unlawful activity. When hunting mountain lions or bobcats with dogs, this rule applies when hounds are placed on tracks in a district open to lion or bobcat harvest. The rule shall not be interpreted to prohibit the possession or use of two-way radios for safety or other legitimate purposes, nor does it prohibit the use of radio tracking equipment to locate hounds when hunting mountain lions or bobcats.
- Night Vision Equipment: Use of night vision equipment or electronically enhanced light gathering optics for locating or hunting game is prohibited.
- Airplane Spotting: Aircraft may not be used to locate big game animals for the purpose of 1) hunting those animals within the same hunting day after a person has been airborne; 2) providing information to another person for the purpose of hunting those animals within the same hunting day after being airborne. The same **hunting day** in this context is defined as between the earliest and latest legal shooting hours.
- Enforcement of Area Closures on Public Land: All federally approved travel plans on public lands in Montana are hereby adopted by the Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission. Motorized travel in restricted areas in violation of any current travel plan or land use plan is prohibited during the hunting season.

Current harvest information

- Current Harvest Information may be obtained by calling the FWP Headquarters in the administrative region where the district is located during normal business hours or statewide information may be obtained by calling **1-800-385-7826** 24-hours a day. The toll free line is updated by 1 PM (MST) every day.

Use of Dogs

- Dogs may be used to chase or hunt mountain lions in the winter season. Lion hunting and chasing is open one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset for the dates listed by hunting district.
- It is prohibited for a dog owner or lion hunter to release dogs on a lion track, or allow dogs to chase a lion, or hold a lion at bay during any period of the day or year when the season is not open to hunting or chasing lions. Legitimate attempts to retrieve loose dogs after legal hunting hours does not constitute a violation of this rule.
- Persons handling dogs in the field are required to have purchased a mountain lion license and obtained a free hound handler permit to hunt OR chase mountain lion during the hunting season.
- Hound handler permits must be obtained no later than August 31. EXCEPTION: Outfitters and guides will be eligible to receive a free hound handler permit by presenting their Montana outfitters or guide license and their conservation license. Guides will also be required to provide the license number of the outfitter on whose license they are guiding. This permit is valid only while accompanied by a paying client.
- A hunter that has purchased a valid mountain lion license and has a free hound handler permit may legally chase mountain lion during the hunting season any time after a kill is made or when the quota is reached in a district or until April 14.

East Half HD 292 Closed to Mountain Lion Hunting & Chasing

Legal Description:

Those portions of Missoula, Powell and Granite Counties lying withing the following described boundary: Beginning at State Route 200 at Ovando, then southeast along the Ovando-Helmville County Road to Route 271 at Helmville then southerly along said route (Helmville-Drummond Road) to its intersection with US Interstate Highway 90, then westerly along said highway to where the Bear Creek Road crosses under said highway, then notherly along the Bear Creek Road to Garnet, then northwesterly along the Garnet Range - Greenough Post Office Road (BLM Road 0401) to State Route 200, then easterly along said route to Ovando, the point of beginning.

Licensing & Regulations

Reminder to Hunters

Mountain Lion Quotas Fill Quickly in Some Hunting Districts. Check With the Regional Office or Call 1-800-385-7826.

- Region One Mountain Lion Permits - see quota and drawing information under the 100 Series districts in these regulations.
- Statewide Fall Season (Oct. 22 - Nov. 26) WITHOUT DOGS Fall Season will close when 20% of Winter Season quota is reached, except HD 150 and 151.
- Two Subdistricts have special permits - HD 100 and 101. See quota and drawing information in these regulations.
- A portion of the Missoula Special Management Area - the Rattlesnake Area has special rules. These rules are available from Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Missoula office (406-542-5500).

Export Mountain Lions

- A CITIES permit is required in order to export mountain lion hides or parts out of the United States. Information on these permits and how to acquire them may be obtained from: Office of Management Authority, USFWS, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Room 432, Arlington VA 22203 (1-800-358-2104) or local USFWS office or agent.
- Transporting - If you are transporting game or fish between Montana and Canada, whether for commercial or non-commercial purposes, you must complete a USFWS declaration form. Contact the USFWS Wildlife Inspector (406-453-5790 or FAX 406-453-3657) for details.

Mountain Lion - Trophy

A Hunter Harvesting a Mountain Lion Must:

- Personally report their lion kill within 12 hours by calling the FWP Regional Office during office hours (8 am - 5 pm weekdays) in the administrative region where the kill was made. Reports can be made after office hours and on weekends by calling the Mountain Lion Reporting Number (406-449-1065). Hunters must then personally present the hide and skull within ten (10) days to an officer of FWP residing in the administrative region in which the license was filled, for the purpose of inspection, tagging, recording of kill, and issuance of a trophy license. Hunters unable to comply with the tagging and trophying requirements due to special or unique circumstances, must contact the administrative region in which the lion was killed and receive authority for tagging and trophying outside the region in which the animal was taken.
- The hide tag must thereafter remain attached to the hide until tanned.
- The skull tag must remain attached to the skull for at least one year.
- It is unlawful for anyone to possess, ship, transport, sell or purchase any mountain lion, or part thereof, unless they have been tagged as prescribed.

Statewide Fall Hunting Season Without Dogs (Oct. 22 - Nov. 26)

Any mountain lion may be taken during the fall season (Oct. 22 - Nov. 26). The season will close on Nov. 26 or upon reaching 20% of the quota established for the winter season as shown in these regulations. USE OF DOGS IS PROHIBITED DURING THIS SEASON. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS ARE THE SAME. During this season female lions with kittens should not be taken. If a lactating female is killed, the hunter is to inform an official of FWP as soon after the kill as possible so that an attempt can be made to backtrack the lion and locate the kittens. No juveniles (with body spots) shall be killed. The fall season harvest will be deducted from the winter season quota.

Winter Season (Dec. 1 - Apr. 14)

Females with kittens may not be taken. If a lactating female is killed, she shall be backtracked and the kittens captured and turned over to FWP within 24 hours (kittens are young of the year). No juveniles (with body spots) shall be killed.

Lion Hunting By Special Permit Only

Hunters may apply for only one special permit to hunt mountain lions in any of the hunting districts listed below.

The special permits in portions of either Hunting District 100 or 101 are valid from December 1, 2000 - April 14, 2001. Hunters may ONLY hunt within the boundaries identified on a hunting map that will be mailed to all permit holders.

HD 100-01 (Kootenai Falls WMA Area)	8 any legal lion
HD 101-01 (Eastside Koocanusa Area)	10 any legal lion

Hunting Districts 100, 101, 103, 104, 120, 121, 122, 123, 130 will also offer 25% of the district quota as permits. Hunters are permitted to hunt ONLY in the hunting district for which the permit is valid. Hunting in the permit area will continue for permit holders throughout the legal lion season even though the quota may have been met and no other hunting is permitted in the hunting district. Nonresidents are limited to no more than 10% of permits offered, therefore, nonresidents may NOT apply for these special permits

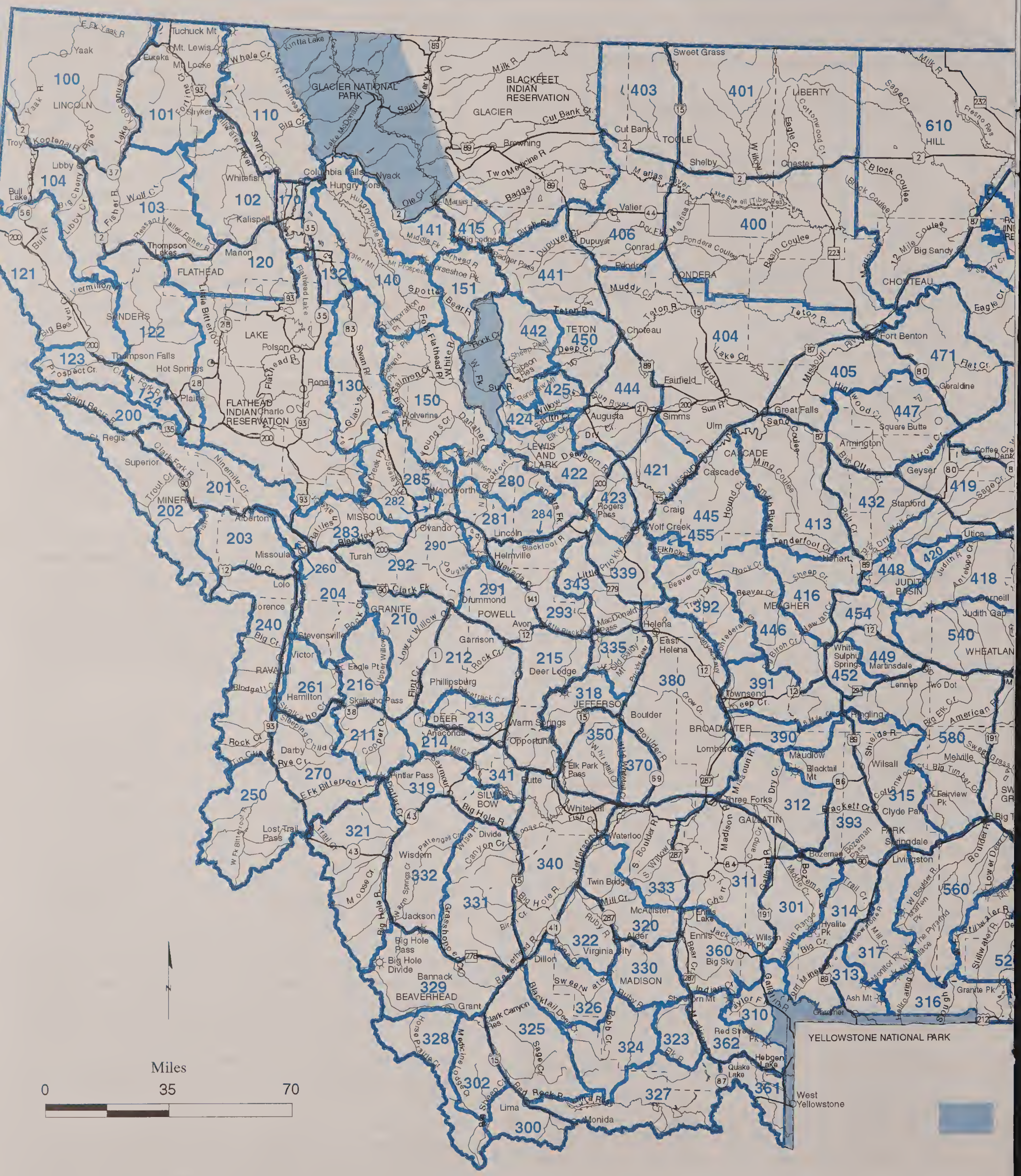
HD 100-02 (Purcell Mountains)	4 any legal lion
HD 101-02 (Salish Mountains)	4 any legal lion
HD 103-00 (Fisher River)	3 any legal lion
HD 104-00 (Cabinet Mountains)	2 any legal lion
Hd 120-00 (Southern Salish Mtns)	2 any legal lion
HD 121-00 (Clark Fork)	6 any legal lion
HD 122-00 (Thompson River)	5 any legal lion
HD 123-00 (Prospect Creek)	2 any legal lion
HD 130-00 (Swan Valley)	3 any legal lion

Hunters apply by submitting name, address, phone number, 2000 conservation license number and lion license number, hunting district number and a $3 nonrefundable drawing fee no later than August 31, 2000. Special permit application can be made on a 3 x 5 card. Send to Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 490 North Meridian Road, Kalispell MT 59901.

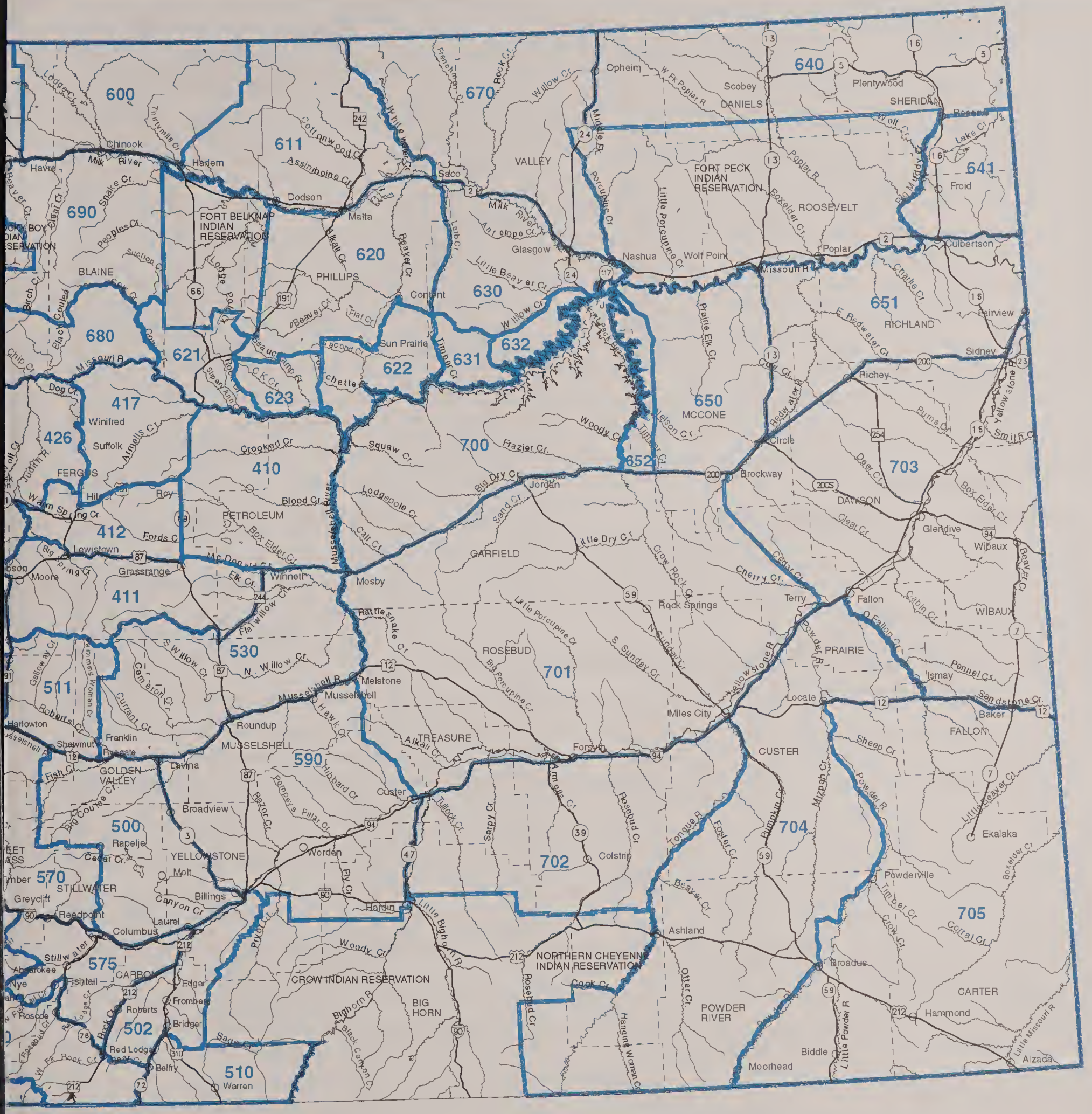
Drawing results will be available the first week of October from the FWP Kalispell office.

These regulations and final quotas are adopted under the authority granted to the MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission in Section 87-1-301, MCA, and are valid March 1, 2000 through April 14, 2001. These regulations and quotas were adopted by the MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission on June 15, 2000. Patrick J. Graham, Secretary.

Deer — Elk — Lion



Deer — Elk — Lion



Map only intended as a guide - refer to the legal descriptions in the 2000 Deer • Elk big game hunting regulations for actual boundaries

CLOSED TO HUNTING FOR BIG GAME

Hunting Districts & Quotas

Hunting District (or groups)	Hunting Season	Final Lion Harvest Quotas		
100 SERIES DISTRICTS			Special Drawing Quota	
100	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	12 any legal lion	4 any legal lion	
101	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	13 any legal lion	4 any legal lion	
102	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	14 any legal lion		
103	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	9 any legal lion	3 any legal lion	
104	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	8 any legal lion	2 any legal lion	
110	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	8 any legal lion		
120	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	5 any legal lion	2 any legal lion	
121	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	18 any legal lion	6 any legal lion	
122	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	14 any legal lion	5 any legal lion	
123	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	5 any legal lion	2 any legal lion	
124	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	4 any legal lion		
130	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	11 any legal lion	3 any legal lion	
132 & 170	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	13 any legal lion		
140	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	9 any legal lion		
141	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	5 any legal lion		
150 & 151	Sept. 15 - Apr. 14, 2001	6 any legal lion		
200 SERIES DISTRICTS				
*Except Missoula Special Management Area		**TOTAL**	**Female**	**Male**
200 & 201*	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	15	5	10
202 & 203*	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	15	5	10
204*, 260*, 261	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	9	3	6
Missoula Special Management Area Portions of 201, 203, 204, 260, 283 & 292	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	25	15	10
Specific rules for the Rattlesnake Area of the Missoula Special Management Area are available at the Missoula Fish, Wildlife & Parks office.				
210, 211 & 216	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	16	9	7
212 & 215	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	10	6	4
213 & 214	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	4	2	2
240	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	15	5	10
250	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	11	3	8
270	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	11	3	8
280, 281, 284 & 293	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	15	7	8
282	CLOSED			
283 & 285	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	15	5	10
290, 291 & w estern half HD 292;	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	6	3	3
eastern half of HD 292 closed.				
300 SERIES DISTRICTS				
300, 302, 328 & 329	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	3	2	
301	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	6	2	
310, 311, 360, 361 & 362	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	12	4	
312 & 393	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	10	4	
313 & 316	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	3	1	
314	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	6	2	
315	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	5	3	
317	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	6	2	

Hunting Districts & Quotas

318 & 350	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	6	3	3
319, 341	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	4	3	
Lion hunting is permitted on Fleecer and Mt. Haggin WMAs from December 1 - 15, 2000.				
320 & 333	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	5	3	
322, 326 & 330	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	6	3	
323, 324, 325 & 327	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	6	3	
321, 331 & 332	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	5	4	
335, 339 & 343	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	10	6	4
340	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	5	4	
370 & 380	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	16	8	8
390, 391 & 392	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	20	10	10
400 SERIES DISTRICTS				
400, 401, 403, 406, 415 & 441	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	5	3	2
404, 421, 444 & 450	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	11	7	4
405, 447 & 471	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	4	2	2
410, 417, 419 & 426	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	9	6	3
411 & 412	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 1999	13	8	5
413 & 432	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 1999	9	5	4
416, 446, 449, 452 & 454	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	16	9	7
418, 420 & 448	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	12	7	5
422, 423, 424, 425 & 442	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	27	17	10
445 & 455	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	18	12	6
500 SERIES DISTRICTS				
500 & 570	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	3 any legal lion		
502 & 575	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	4 any legal lion		
510	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	4	2	
511	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	4	2	
520	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	8	4	
530 & 590	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	5 any legal lion		
540	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	6	3	
560	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	14	7	
580	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	8	4	
600 SERIES DISTRICTS				
680 & 690	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	10	5	
600, 610, 620, 621, 622, 623, 630, 631, 632, 640, 641, 650, 651, 652 & 670	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	6 any legal lion		
700 SERIES DISTRICTS				
Region 7	Dec. 1 - Apr. 14, 2001	10 any legal lion		

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks State Headquarters

1420 East 6th Ave, PO Box 200701, Helena MT 59620

Information Center: 406-444-2535

Hunter Education
406-444-4046

Wildlife Division
406-444-2612

Enforcement Division
406-444-2452

Turn In Poachers

1-800-TIP-MONT or
1-800-847-6668

Mountain Lion Harvest Reporting Number
406-449-1065

Information Hotline
1-900-225-5397

Telephone Device for the Deaf
406-444-1200

Regional Boundaries

Regional Headquarters

REGION 1
490 North Meridian Rd
Kalispell, MT 59901
406-752-5501

REGION 2
3201 Spurgin Rd
Missoula, MT 59804
406-542-5500

REGION 3
1400 South 19th
Bozeman, MT 59718
406-994-4042

REGION 4
4600 Giant Springs Rd
Great Falls, MT 59405
406-454-5840

REGION 5
2300 Lake Elmo Dr
Billings, MT 59105
406-247-2940

REGION 6
Route 1 - 4210
Glasgow, MT 59230
406-228-3700

REGION 7
PO Box 1630
Miles City, MT 59301
406-232-0900

Area Resource Offices

BUTTE (BARO)
1820 Meadowlark Ln
Butte, MT 59701
406-494-1953

HAVRE (HvARO)
2165 Hwy 2 East
Havre, MT 59501
406-265-6177

HELENA (HARO)
930 Custer Ave. W
Helena, MT 59620
406-444-4720

LEWISTOWN (LARO)
2358 Airport Rd
Lewistown, MT 59457
406-538-4658

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

http://fwp.state.mt.us